## Town and County of Nantucket Board of Selectmen • County Commissioners

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C. Elizabeth Gibson Town & County Administrator July 12, 2006

The Honorable Johnnie Burton Minerals Management Service Department of Interior 1849 C St. NW Washington, DC 20240

RE: Request for Extension of 45-Day Public Comment Period/Proposed Cape Wind Project

Dear Director Burton:

On May 30, 2006, the Minerals Management Service issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Cape Wind development. That Notice did not, however, indicate that MMS intended to conduct public hearings on the scoping for the proposed project. The Town of Nantucket Board of Selectmen voted at its June 28, 2006 meeting to request an extension of the comment period for another 45 days; and, to request that local public or informational hearing(s) be scheduled by the MMS to brief the Town on the EIS process, and most specifically, the two sites contained within the scoping process that would directly affect Nantucket.

The complexity of the project, the substantial interest in and concern about it, and its numerous associated issues, including scoping, warrants such an extension in order to address the need for public consultation about the project. Nantucket's residents need to be provided with a forum where they may address MMS officials about the proposed EIS for the Cape Wind project.

We would sincerely appreciate your favorable consideration of this request so that additional public involvement may be provided. Thank you.

Sincerely,

C. Elizabeth Gibson

Town Administrator

Pc: Congressman Delahunt

Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission